

## ABSTRACT

An apparatus and method for the automatic or semi-automatic acquisition of multiple  
5 photographs and VIN-coded information about an automobile. In one embodiment, four height-  
adjustable, digital cameras are positioned on four corner posts defining a work center. A vehicle  
is pulled into the center until a stop indicator light is triggered, at which time an attendant scans  
the bar coded VIN number and reviews the proposed photographs of the vehicle at a work center  
computer. Once the photographs and data are acceptable, the attendant triggers a download of  
10 the information to local and industry databases. Alternate embodiments include Alternate  
embodiments include work centers with different post configurations, manual entry systems, and  
completely automated centers.